## News Release



For Immediate Release

Date: July 27, 2012

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Border Field State Park, Imperial Beach, CA **Beautiful New Picnic Facilities Now Open to the Public on Monument Mesa**Southwest Corner of the United States

One of the prettiest sites overlooking the ocean in the San Diego region now has the newest picnic facilities. California State Parks has completed renovation of the park atop Monument Mesa, in the southwest corner of Border Field State Park. The facility now has a shaded group picnic area and numerous individual picnic tables surrounding a large turf area and set amongst native landscaping. Visitors will enjoy spectacular views of an undeveloped 2-mile beach, backed by the last undivided coastal wetland in the region, the Tijuana River Estuary.

"We're really excited to offer this setting for the public's enjoyment," says Clay Phillips, District Superintendent for the San Diego Coast District of State Parks. "While flooding keeps vehicles out of here for about 6 months each year, we're thrilled that now, during the peak summer months, the public has easy access to what is now one of the best picnic sites along the southern California coastline. While we ordinarily don't have lawn in a state park, we felt it was appropriate here in honor of the recreational activities that historically happened atop Monument Mesa. We hope families will come to kick a ball around and barbeque while gaining an appreciation for the adjacent Estuary. The Tijuana River Estuary is an environmental jewel of the San Diego region. In fact, it's one of only a handful of sites in the United States that has been designated as a Wetland of International Importance."

The park is now open to vehicles on Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays from 9:30am to 7:00pm. There is a \$5/vehicle fee.

At this time, use of the group picnic area is on a first-come, first-served basis (but soon it will may require a special event permit). The group area has two large grills and can accommodate two separate groups of 30 people or a single group of 60. In addition to the group area, 7 new individual picnic sites are scattered throughout the new facility; each has a BBQ grill. There is also a restroom onsite.

